

SUZETTE AT THE VAUDEVILLE

NEW PARIS PLAY A DISCUSSION OF DIVORCE.

Brieux, author of the "Robe Rouge," argues against it when a child has been born—Prospect that the Long deferred "Chanteur" may be seen.

PARIS, Oct. 12.—Of the half dozen theatres that have reopened their doors for the new season within the last ten days the Vaudeville has produced the most if not the only important play, M. Brieux's "Suzette." His "Robe Rouge," originally played at the Vaudeville in 1907, has been taken over this week by the Comédie Française and promises to take its place in that State subventioned theatre's regular repertoire, an honor to a play which may be compared with the transfer of a great man's remains to the Pantheon, not in the sense that it thereby received a first class funeral, but that its name received a definite seal.

"Suzette," which M. Brieux first thought of naming "The Judgment of Solomon," is a plea against separation or divorce between husband and wife when there is a child.

Henri Chambert, the son of a retired Magistrate, whose household is all that is typical of middle class bourgeoisie, has married Régine Godegus, daughter of a retired sea captain, whose household is just the opposite. The old seadog had left Marseilles for Montmartre, where his two daughters are learning to earn their own living, one as an actress, the other as a midwife. Henri and Régine have been married twelve years and have a daughter, Suzette, aged 10, when the play opens. The narrow minded, highly respectable Chambert family have never taken to Régine and are not at all sorry when Henri comes to tell them he has caught his wife being kissed "on the lips" (a sign in France of guilty intimacy except between near relatives) by a friend. His father, mother and sister urge him to seek a separation or divorce, for that will give them the custody of the child, whom they all love.

Henri is a weak man and would pardon his wife if he were encouraged to, but his people throw oil on the fire and when Régine comes to ask pardon for her fault, which she considers trifling, the natural result of the life in Paris she and her husband lead, she is driven away, and when she asks for her child she is refused.

Régine maintains that her fault has been no worse than a too intense flirtation, while her husband has been guilty of having more than one mistress, more-over he has, in the matter of certain Government contracts, brought himself within the reach of the law.

Régine carries off her child and hides it with her father, but her husband gets a judicial order and takes Suzette away by force. Henceforth, until the case is judged, the child sees its mother only once a week. The grandmother, Chambert, tries everything in her power to break down the child's love for its mother, until in the third and last act poor Régine comes to the house of the Chamberts and declares herself ready to give up her child forever rather than have its young existence blighted through its being the subject of a cruel struggle between her and her family and her husband and his family.

In accounts that moved the house to tears Mrs. André Mégarde as Régine, perfect in her pathos and dignity, explained how she had been driven to this (for her) desperate resolution. Régine had not revealed her husband's faults or swindling in drawing up her defence, but his family had succeeded in breaking her spirit in the three months that had elapsed since the rupture. She told how the Chamberts had got medical certificates from a doctor friend forbidding her to leave the child to the country so that Régine was compelled to come and see her in a cold dreary room at a hotel, how when the child had been allowed by the law to visit her for a whole week the Chamberts had her vaccinated the day before she was to come; how the child was only allowed to write letters to her mother under her grandmother's dictation; how the letters contained little more than "I am very happy"; often she wrote nothing but a few words on a picture postcard, one of them said merely, "Perfect weather."

One letter dictated by grandmother raised a murmur of remonstrance at the dress rehearsal, as the audience evidently felt it exceeded the bounds of possibility, for the little girl was compelled to write, "Grandmother is going to make me pray to the good God to pardon you for all the things you are doing to us." But M. Brieux writes these letters are taken from real life and were actually written by children under similar circumstances.

Régine therefore is driven to offer to give up her child entirely, as she believes her affection may do the little one more harm than good.

Henri, touched by his wife's generosity, takes her to his arms, and Chambert perceives the moral: "Never should this sacred trinity be disunited, the father, mother and child."

Two of the other new pieces produced have been "The French Revolution" at Sarah Bernhardt's theatre (in the absence of the manageress) and "The King Without a Kingdom" at the Porte Saint Martin. The first is a revenge of the drama on the cinematograph, which has displaced the living actor at so many theatres, for it is nothing but a series of pictures picturing the days of the Revolution, introducing Napoleon, Robespierre and other historic characters, all strung together by a thread of a plot.

The second deals with the young duc de Montcalm, son of Louis XVI., who is supposed to have escaped from the Temple prison and in one act has the great Napoleon in his power. Although it is by Pierre Decourcelles, author of the "Deux Gosses" (the original of the "Two Little Vagabonds"), its success has not been so great that it need keep "Chanteur" waiting when Rostand's long heralded play is ready.

As for "Chanteur," it is reported that full rehearsals have started this week, but a play that has waited five years for this public and seen it parodied half a dozen times before it has been produced hesitates to believe the report. Mr. Hertz, the joint manager of the Porte Saint Martin, confirms the statement and says the play will be ready in November. Meanwhile he begs for silence about it, as he is sure that the public has already a fit of indignation over it. Rumor has it that \$6,000 worth of seats have already been booked for the first night, when the orchestra stalls are to be \$20 apiece.

The Paris theatre managers have decided to charge the ten per cent. tax on their receipts which goes to the poor separately from the price of the seat; thus the franc orchestra stall will cost ten francs plus one. This decision brought the managers into conflict with the authors.

whose society collects for them ten or twelve per cent. according to the theatre, on the gross receipts. The authors wanted their percentage to be based on the total receipts, but the managers maintained that they should only pay on the sum they actually pocketed after paying the tax for the poor. A compromise was effected by giving the authors ten cents on every deadhead ticket for the higher priced seats and five cents on the cheaper ones.

A strike among the scene shifters at the Variétés enlivened the week's theatrical news and tried to put a stop to the long career of "Le Roi." For one night the actors had to take their share in the labor of setting the scenes, after which the dispute was settled and "Le Roi" continues its well deserved progress to its 100th performance.

NATIONAL BANK CLOSED.

Many Kinds of Dishonesty Alleged to Have Caused \$200,000 Shortage.

MINERAL POINT, Wis., Oct. 12.—A shortage aggregating possibly \$200,000, according to President Calvin Sponsky, has been disclosed in the First National Bank of this city. Vice-President Phil Allen, Jr., who has been in difficulties, is reported to be near death at his home here.

Near midnight last night a session of the stockholders and directors of the bank was held in an effort to avoid closing. The bank is one of the strongest in southwestern Wisconsin, and the business men of three counties are rallying to its support. To-day word came from Washington, however, that a receiver had been appointed and the bank was closed.

Stockholders and directors in various portions of the district with a face value equal to the bank's shortage, have been turned over to the bank by Allen.

The discovery of errors in the accounts was made about a week ago, and until that time there was no suspicion of any trouble. The examiner's attention first was called to the condition of the bank; when he was looking over notes purporting to be signed by known business men of the county he found a similarity in many of the notes, and finally called upon Allen for an explanation.

According to the examiner, Mr. Allen admitted that he had forged the names of these men to notes.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—The orders to close the First National Bank at Mineral Point were sent out after a week's heroic struggle on the part of the directors and shareholders under the direction of Bank Examiner Richard W. Goodhart to save the institution. Embezzlement, forgery and almost every kind of dishonesty is at the bottom of the failure, according to the information received in Washington.

TOM TAGGART BEFORE A JURY.

Woman Sues, Declaring She Was Injured by His Automobile.

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 12.—Tom Taggart faced a jury to-day in the suit of Mrs. Jennie Matthews for \$5,000 damages which she claimed because she was struck by Taggart's touring car while crossing a street.

She was represented by three negro attorneys, though she herself is white. She exhibited a set of broken teeth to the jury and declared they were broken by the fall.

Taggart swore that he was driving very slowly but that the woman was befooled and actually ran into the machine.

FINE FOR QUEENSBORO CARS.

P. S. Commission Declines to Recognize Board of Estimate's Permit.

The fight between the Public Service Commission and the board of Estimate reached another stage yesterday when the commission summoned the officials of the New York and Queens County Electric Railway Company to appear before the board to-day to show cause why they should not be fined \$5,000 for running cars across Queensboro Bridge without first obtaining the consent of the commission.

The company is running its cars over the bridge on a special permit granted by the Board of Estimate. The commission has contended that the Board of Estimate has no right to grant such permits without the approval of the commission, and in case it is imposed on the company to-day there will undoubtedly be an appeal to the courts.

The Seagoers.

Sailing to-day by the White Star liner Adriatic, for Plymouth, Cherbourg and Southampton:

Frank P. Abbott, Major M. Archer-Shee, Prof. and Mrs. A. H. Blanchard, Countess de Nevers, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Vesey, Countess de Sibour, Viscount de Sibour and Mrs. William Church Osborn.

Passengers by the Cunarder Campania, for Queenstown and Liverpool:

James T. Blakeley, Major George B. Burbank, F. M. Hatch, F. N. LeVand, H. J. C. Taylor, Sir Alfred Keogh and Anthony Bunting.

Aboard the Hamburg-American liner President Grant, for Plymouth, Cherbourg and Hamburg:

C. W. Case, Mrs. H. R. Edwards, Mrs. Frank M. Hoyt, Dr. and Mrs. A. W. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. George Wood Garrard and George Kerr.

Passengers by the Fabre Line steamship Roma, for the Mediterranean:

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wilcox Jencks, Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Van Cleave, Count de Fromentin and Eugene L. Raiche.

Ocean Frieze at American Museum.

In the octagonal gallery on the third floor of the east wing of the American Museum of Natural History a frieze has been painted representing the ocean, forming an effective background for the marine mammals in the series of models representing a school of dolphins at play, while suspended at the east end of the gallery a school of porpoises may be seen, with ocean background. The models were prepared at the museum from casts and drawings and actual specimens.

The frieze was painted by Albert Oppert. The extreme eastern wing on the floor has been closed temporarily owing to changes now in progress.

Combines Severity With Lenity.

MONTCLAIR, N. J., Oct. 12.—Recorder Henry L. Yost, who presides at the police court trials in Montclair, fined himself \$5 last night for violating a town ordinance and then hung up the fine on condition that there should be no further infractions. His offense was failing to have a light on his carriage after dark last night. His delinquency was noticed by Councilman Henry E. Wrensch, Jr., who called the Recorder's attention to it and suggested that he set a good example by fining himself.

OBITUARY.

Daniel P. Fox died yesterday at his home 440 State street, Brooklyn, in his thirty-fifth year. He had been connected for several years with the carpet firm of Joseph Wild & Co. as a traveling salesman and was a member of the Commercial Travelers' association. He was active in Democratic politics. He is survived by his wife and a son.

Mrs. Katie Fromme, wife of Herman Fromme, died yesterday at her country home in Cranford, N. J., of her husband, who had been in the hospital for some time, after having been in the hospital for some time, after having been in the hospital for some time.

D. M. Martin, Baltimore, general passenger agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, died at Atlantic City last night of Bright's disease.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS.

Arrangements have been made for covering the presentation of Margaret Deland's dramatized novel in America, England and Austria. Mrs. Deland is to have a brief bit of fiction brought out in holiday book form under the title of "Where Laborers Are Few."

James Branch Cabell, the young Virginian writer who delights in depicting the days of old romance in which the lover lay down and died for his lady and the lady was worth dying for, has bound together a book of medieval tales which he will present this month under the title of "Chivalry." In this volume he says, "I treat of divers queens and their love business." It purports to be a record inscribed by a dependent of the Duke of Burgundy who is writing about 1470. The various royal loves date back two centuries before that time and the style will follow the diction of that romantic day.

"There's only one way to get on for a woman, and that is to please men," says Ann Veronica's friend in H. G. Wells's forthcoming novel named for his heroine. "That is what they think we are for. Of course we do please men. We have that gift. We can see round them and behind them and through them, and most of us use that knowledge in the silent way we have for our great ends. I wonder what men would say if we threw the mask aside—if we really told them what we thought of them, really showed them what we were."

"Maternity," she concluded, "has been our undoing. . . . The children made us slaves and the men took advantage of it."

"I make empty my heart of all wicked. Buddha or Christians! God I no can know which. Please the more better speak into my lonely life the word of peace"—these are the words of Little Sister Snow, the heroine of Francis Little's new book. Francis Little's first book, "The Lady of the Decoration," has been printed thirty-three times and is still among the best selling books of its publisher's list. The new book is dedicated "To my niece, Alice Hegen Rice, in memory of many happy months spent together in Japan." A Japanese artist, Genjiro Kataoka, has made the illustrations, which are reproduced in the coloring of the originals. Francis Little, the author, is Mrs. Fannie C. Macaulay, and her home is in Louisville, but she spends much time in Japan, the country in which she wrote her first book and in which the scene of "Little Sister Snow" is placed.

"Ann Veronica," H. G. Wells's new novel to be published immediately, brings out that curious and eternal play of man's mind with woman's, his wish with her will, which Meredith calls the duel of sex. "The point is that we're not toys we're little—inflammable litter that mustn't be left about," says one of Ann's friends. And she adds:

"We are the species and maternity is our game. But nobody wants that admitted for fear we should all fire and end about fulfilling the purpose of our beings without waiting for further explanations. The practical trouble is our age. They send too many of us off at 17, rush us into things before we had time to protest. They don't let most of us off now until high up in the twenties. We have to hang about in the interval. So the world is choked with waste and waiting daughters. Hanging about! And they start thinking and asking questions, and begin to be neither one thing nor the other. We're partly human beings and partly females in suspense. They have no idea what to do with us. Except to keep the matches from the litter."

Margaret Cameron (Mrs. Harrison C. Lewis) is now in South America, the scene of her new novel, "The Involuntary Chaperon." It was after returning from a similar journey, undertaken with no thought of writing a book, that Mrs. Lewis decided to write this story, in which, as the author puts it, "every incident not connected with the love story is fact and every character fiction."

William Dean Howells, vigorous after his foreign rest in Carlsbad, is engaged in reviewing the final sheets of his new book of travel to be brought out the last of this month. This fresh record of Mr. Howells's wanderings is confined to the towns of England and will be called "Seven English Cities."

"The Ruinous Face" is the title of Maurice Hewlett's October novel. The ruinous face is "the face of a fair woman made for love, the most beautiful in all the world, for whom men died and cities fell—the face of Helen of Troy."

Mrs. Humphry Ward, according to the English critics, has thrown into her "Marriage à la Mode" a new light on the psychology of the American woman. Daphne, the heroine, as 'was to have been expected, has been accepted as the literal "emancipated American woman," and the story itself "implicitly and impressively denounces the laxity of the American law of divorce." In Scotland they urge that the book shows convincingly "that America cannot neglect her divorce laws without seriously deteriorating the national life." In Ireland it is asserted that "Mrs. Ward has turned her trained intellect upon a state of things in American society as it is with its present laxity of regard for the marriage bond. A review content has been carried on with regard to this book, the results of which will be published soon."

John Bigelow, now in his ninety-second year, has completed his autobiography, which will be published this month under the title of "Retrospections of an Active Life." The book covers a period of over half a century, and as the author has enjoyed the privilege of friendship with many of the prominent personages of the Victorian era in England and France as well as in his own country the correspondence is of peculiar and important value. His editorial work in America gave him close and intimate associations with famous men. His correspondents include Swarthmore, Bright, Cobden, Motley, Drouyn de Lhuys, Comte de Montalembert, Lytton, Dumas and many others equally distinguished.

Roy Rolfe Gilson, whose new book "The Wasteful Years" will be published soon, has been living for some time at the charming old house in Concord, Mass., known as the Grape Vine Cottage. He will spend the winter in Buffalo working upon his next book, which is already taking shape.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pennell started out twenty years ago to make a systematic study of the cathedral towns of France. The result has been compiled in a book to be published this month under the title of "French Cathedrals." The text is Mrs. Pennell's and the illustrations are made from drawings by Mr. Pennell, the originals of which are now in the Luxembourg Museum, the property of the French Government.

Mr. William Lindsey, whose first novel, "The Severed Mantle," is to be published

this month, has made a special study of the troubadour period, and in his visit to Provence he has explored the ruins of old castles where fair ladies lived in the olden times. Mr. Lindsey has spent about five years in the writing of "The Severed Mantle."

The identity of Ingham Lovell, the author of "Margarita's Soul," is still a matter of guesswork among literary experts, but this in no wise lessens the success of the book. Four theatrical managers have applied for the privilege of dramatization. The unique views of the beautiful untrained woman as to convention and morality and literature are among the most entertaining bits of the story. The parable of the laborers in the vineyard who at the latest hour received the same wage as those who had worked the entire day Margarita rejected as unfair and absurd.

"But, my dear," said her mentor, "it had the approval of our Lord."

"He was probably not one of the ones who had worked all day, then," Margarita replied blandly.

Miss Mary Johnston has just returned to her home in Richmond after a spring and summer spent in Egypt and Europe. She is writing a new book, to be published during the year, which will deal with the civil war. This is the most modern setting of any of Miss Johnston's books and one which she is able to treat from intimate knowledge.

This year's book in the "Little Novels of Famous Cities" is "Felicia" by Christopher Hare. It is a story of old Siena and like the first volume of the series it is illustrated with photographs. The idea of this series is to publish in handsome form short novels that are especially characteristic of the cities in which their scenes are laid.

John Muir has been acting as President Taft's guide through the Yosemite Park. Mr. Muir has labored many years in the cause of forest preservation and in the establishment of national reservations and parks. He is the recognized authority on the great Western parks described in his book, "Our National Parks," a finely illustrated new edition of which is to be published this month.

Mrs. Catherine A. B. Abbe writes in her preface to the new "Historical Guide to the City of New York," compiled by Frank Bergen Kelley of the City History Club, that the book is the result of "prolonged efforts to discover and to direct attention to the yet visible traces of earlier times which lie hidden within and are fast disappearing from the city to-day." During the last thirteen years "Excursion Leaflets" have been prepared to provide a brief but carefully verified historical description of every part of the city, compiled as far as possible from original sources. These pamphlets have been used by the children of the schools and in answer to prizes offered some remarkable work has been done by children of all ages in studying the city. The information gathered and verified by the club members is now presented in complete form "in the sincere hope that this book may prove of real service to all those who desire to know the city better and to work more effectively for its future good." The book is endorsed by the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society.

A book containing the Delinstructor's "prize \$3,000 house" is to be published this week and will contain perspectives and plans for practical use by the prospective house or bungalow builder. The information has been derived from plans and designs furnished by prominent architects who competed in the Delinstructor's prize offer, and in each case included detailed directions for building and furnishing and careful estimates of cost.

One of the important books of the non-fiction class appearing this week is made up of a series of intimate personal letters from Gen. Sherman to his wife, and to one or two other people, giving his first impressions of the great events in which he took part during his career. These letters begin at West Point in 1837 and continue through the war and until the year 1868. The volume containing them will be entitled "Home Letters of Gen. Sherman," and is edited by M. A. De Wolfe Howe.

Miss Laura Stedman, the granddaughter of Edmund Clarence Stedman, has now in preparation an official "Life and Letters of E. C. Stedman" which will be of important literary interest, as Mr. Stedman's career extended over a remarkable literary period and his intimate friends included leaders of contemporary thought and letters both in this country and in England. Among the letters is a collection of peculiar value written by the poet Swinburne to Stedman, several of which have not been as yet published.

George F. Parker's "Recollections of Grover Cleveland" will be published this season. The biography had Mr. Cleveland's approval before his death, and the author has special qualifications for his work, having been very close to Mr. Cleveland for many years.

Charles Major's new historical novel, "A Gentle Knight of Old Brandenburg," will soon be published. The scene of the novel is laid in the court of Berlin at the time of Frederick the Great's father. The story is that of the strange wooing of his sister Wilhelmine. Mr. Major studied and practised law in Indiana, but his first great success, "When Knighthood was in Flower," followed by "Dorothy Vernon of Haddon Hall," has given him an enviable place among successful literary men.

WASHINGTON SOCIAL NOTES.

Mrs. Knox, wife of the Secretary of State, Returns for the Season.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—Mrs. Knox, wife of the Secretary of State, has returned to Washington and opened her house in K street for the winter. Mr. and Mrs. Reed Knox, son and daughter-in-law of the Secretary, who have spent the past several seasons with them, have taken an apartment for the winter at the Embassy on K street. Hugh Knox, who spent the summer abroad with his mother, will spend the winter here with his parents while completing his law studies.

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. R. Johnson, who have spent the summer abroad, have arrived in New York and will return to Washington to-morrow.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward D. McLean, who spent the latter part of the summer and early autumn at Bar Harbor, arrived in Washington to-day in John R. McLean's private car. They are at Friendship, the country place of John R. McLean, to remain an indefinite time.

The German Ambassador and Countess Bernstorff and their daughter, Countess Louise Alexander, are expected to return to the embassy this day about 10 o'clock. On the return of the Ambassador Count von Wedel, who has been acting Chargé d'Affaires, will sail for a visit to Germany accompanied by the Countess.

MR. KIPLING'S NEW BOOK, "ACTIONS AND REACTIONS."

To the Reading Public:

"Not since the publication of 'The Day's Work,' ten years ago, have we issued so characteristic a volume of Mr. Kipling's stories, in so many different successful fields, as the new book ACTIONS AND REACTIONS. It is full of new material; the only tale that has appeared in permanent form before is the airship story, 'With the Night Mail.'"

For instance: There is "An Habitation Enforced," the story of a jaded American business man who lives the life of an English country gentleman in the hope of re-establishing his health—with all of the novel old-world things that happen.

A wonderful dog story is "Garm—A Hostage," a tale of the hot plains of India, in which we meet again our old friend Private Ortheris, one of the "Soldiers Three."

An allegorical story is "The Mother Hive." A good many people think it is as beautiful in conception and as brilliantly written as anything Mr. Kipling has done.

The Stricklands, of favored memory, reappear in "A Deal in Cotton," a story of their son, a young English officer thrown out upon his own resources, and of what he accomplished with the natives by enthusiasm and grit.

In "Little Foxes" we have a character of the "Plain Tales from the Hills" type—the English fox-hunting officer fighting against the red tape of the Government in trying to do things in faraway lands.

Then there is the supernatural story of "The House Surgeon"—besides several others equally compelling.

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COLGATE'S NEW PRESIDENT.

Plans Being Finalized for the Inauguration

Next Week of Dr. Bryan.

UTICA, Oct. 12.—Elaborate preparations for the inauguration of Elmer Burrill Bryan, LL.D., formerly president of Franklin College, Indiana, as president of Colgate University are under way. The ceremonies will take place at the university in the village of Hamilton on October 20 and will be participated in by representatives of many American universities and colleges and other notable guests, including Vice-President Sherman.

The exercises of inauguration day are under the management of a joint committee of the faculty and trustees consisting of Dr. W. H. Crawshaw, Dr. Arthur Jones, Dr. Melbourne S. Reed, Prof. Harold O. Whittall, Frank L. Sheppardson, Ayton H. Lewis, Thomas P. Kingsford, Oswego, and Eugene A. Rowlands, '94.

The inauguration exercises will begin in the forenoon. Dr. William M. Lawrence, president of the university board of trustees, will present the college charter and keys to Dr. Bryan. The congratulatory address in behalf of educational institutions will be delivered by President Stryker of Hamilton College. In behalf of the alumni the Rev. Grover Griffith Johnson, '91, of Buffalo, N. Y., will speak, followed by Dr. William Henry Crawshaw for the faculty and William Stanley Murray, '90, of Bradford, Pa., for the student body. In reply Dr. Bryan will deliver the inauguration address.

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